



Mayo River State Park

500 Old Mayo Park Road
Mayodan, NC 27027

336-427-2530

mayo.river@ncparks.gov

GPS: 36.438800, -79.938171

The Mayo River State Park's interim facility, Mayo Mountain Access, opened to the public on April 1, 2010. Located at the site are a park office/visitor contact station, picnic shelter with grills (accommodates up to 100 and may be reserved), three individual picnic pads each with table and grill, 0.5-mile loop hiking trail, 1.8-mile loop hiking trail, restrooms, fishing in the ponds (N.C. fishing license required and posted creel limits apply), and a maintenance facility.

Total acreage for the entire park is presently 2,244 acres.

Park staff is available to provide outreach environmental education programs and will be hosting volunteer workdays. For more information, please contact the park office.

The Mayo River

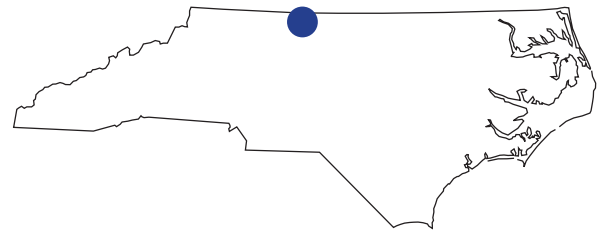
At this time, there is no public river access managed by Mayo River State Park. For more information on paddling opportunities, visit the website for Dan River Basin Association (DRBA) or the Rockingham County website.

Beginning in Virginia as two small forks, the Mayo's confluence is just below the North Carolina state line. It flows roughly 16 miles south to just below the town of Mayodan in Rockingham County before joining the Dan River. A Class III rapid on the upper section offers quite a challenging run as paddlers dodge large rocks dotting the rushing waters. As the river's descent becomes more gradual, the float becomes a more leisurely paced and scenic journey with just a hint here and there of faster moving water.

Paddlers need to exit the river north of Mayodan at the Highway 220 Business bridge. Two hydroelectric dams and their canals located below the bridge prevent paddlers from completing the entire run as there is no safe portage. These dams were originally built to generate power for two cotton mills—Mayo Mills in Mayodan (later Washington Mills) and Avalon Mills. Both mills were established in the 1890s by Colonel Frances Fries of nearby Winston-Salem. Colonel Fries and his partners, including Washington Duke of the Duke tobacco empire, envisioned hydroelectric possibilities for their textile business venture due to the natural fall line of the river. They were also responsible for building a railroad along the river's bank. The dams and rail line are still in use today.

Several well-preserved fish weirs (fish traps) built by American Indians can be spotted while paddling the Mayo. Native settlements can be traced back thousands of years. Fragments of tobacco pipes, arrowheads and pottery have been found along the river banks and feeder streams.

Location



Mayo River State Park's Mayo Mountain Access is located in western Rockingham County near the towns of Mayodan and Stoneville, 30 minutes north of Greensboro, N.C. and 20 minutes south of Martinsville, Va. From Greensboro, take Highway 220 North to the Stoneville exit and turn left onto Highway 220 Business toward Mayodan. From Martinsville, take Highway 220 South to the Mayodan exit and turn right onto Highway 220 Business toward Mayodan. Mayo Mountain Access entrance is 1.7 miles from both exits on the right.

Park Hours

North Carolina State Parks are open every day, with the exception of Christmas Day. Park hours vary with the seasons.

Please visit the North Carolina State Park website or contact the park office for the most current information about seasonal hours, activities, alerts, camping fees, programs rules and weather.

www.ncparks.gov



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